

THE STEAM FACTORY

Our Story and Purpose

Founded by a collection of young and energetic OSU faculty, postdocs and staff, the STEAM Factory is a diverse and inclusive grass-roots network in the OSU community that facilitates creative and interdisciplinary collaboration, innovation and dissemination.

Our Function

The twin cores of STEAM Factory activity are Collaboration and Dissemination.

Collaboration: The STEAM Factory provides a space where researchers from all disciplines can broaden their perspectives, share resources, spark creative research ideas and form collaborations across areas of common interest.

Both formal and informal activities help members to:

- enhance **professional development** by sharing research skills, pedagogical resources, equipment, grant-writing expertise and other items that may enhance faculty success throughout their careers. This can be especially useful for new members of the OSU community;
- learn about current research questions and opportunities for collaboration across all disciplines through monthly **STEAM Exchanges**; and
- get support for establishing collaborations via seed funding, proposal-writing assistance, creation of **STEAMbase** – a database to centralize information about research interests and cross-disciplinary project logistics – and links to other resources.



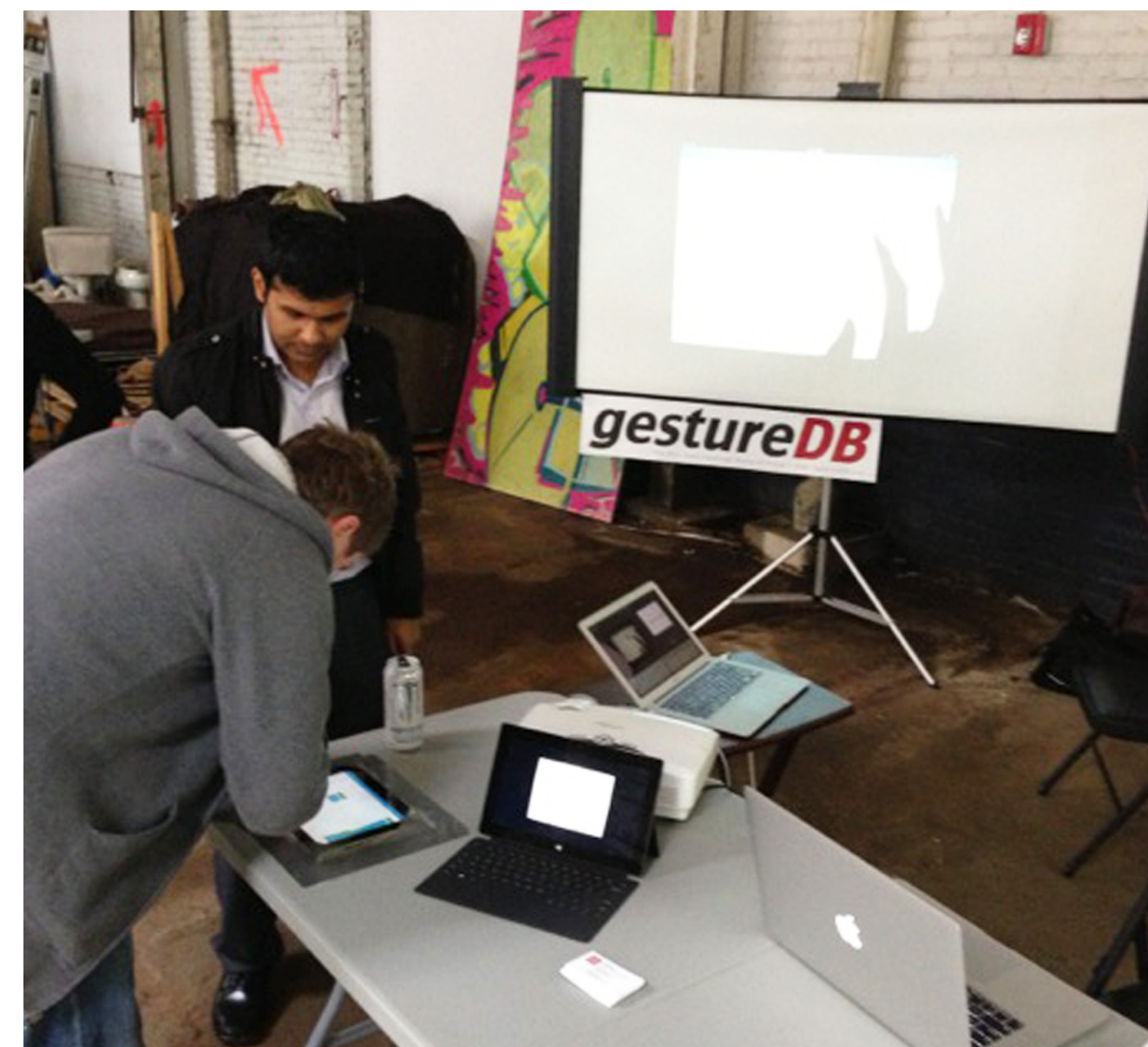
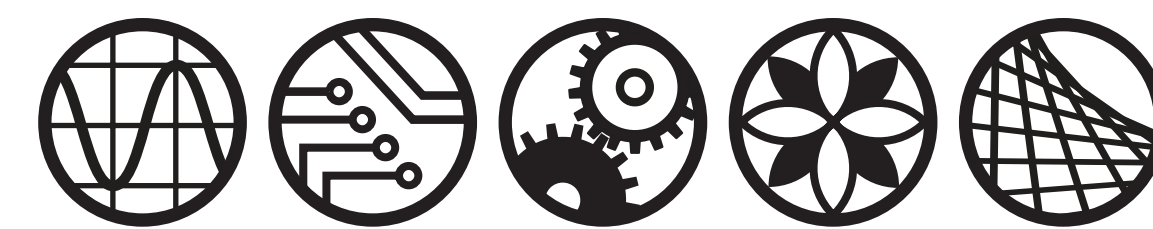
Dissemination: The STEAM Factory helps to bridge the gap between OSU and the Columbus community through research dissemination and outreach that is accessible, approachable and combines formal and informal learning.

Finding creative ways to reach the Columbus community – such as the farmers' market at 400 West Rich –helps to:

- increase the public impact of academic research, by reaching a demographic who might not be accessible via traditional methods based at OSU, and by establishing connections with artists and other creatives;
- garner critical feedback on research in progress; and
- provide a marketing channel for raising awareness of the work done by individual members, the STEAM Factory as an entity and the greater OSU community.

Our Goals

- To provide opportunities for collaboration that enhance and drive innovation within all research disciplines;
- To provide linkages and interdisciplinary interactions between OSU departments and colleges; and
- To increase the public awareness, understanding and impact of OSU research.



Contact

<http://steamfactory.osu.edu>
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